

**WORLD
RESOURCES
FORUM**

**CLOSING
LOOPS**



TRANSITIONS
AT WORK



FEB 2019
24-27
ANTWERP
BELGIUM

FLANDERS MEETING & CONVENTION
CENTER ANTWERP

**DESIGN YOUR OWN WORKSHOP
AT THE WORLD RESOURCES FORUM 2019**

Dates: 24 - 27 February 2019

Venue: Flanders Meeting and
Convention Center Antwerp – Belgium

www.wrf-antwerp2019.be

Please let us know if you want to receive news and updates on WRF 2019.

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WRF 2019 will host a series of 'deep-dive' workshops as part of the conference program and invites interested organisations to design and submit a workshop proposal now. Under the Title 'Closing Loops - Transitions at work', WRF 2019 wants to show systemic drivers, as well as concrete solutions to make the transition to circular economy work in practice.

A circular economy aims at maintaining our resources, such as materials, land and soil, at a high quality level while rendering the services we need to fulfill our current and future needs. This can be achieved by reorganising production/consumption patterns and value chains so that resources do not get wasted, rather get replenished and restored.

WORKSHOPS ADDRESS TOPICAL ISSUES RELATED TO THE 6 CONFERENCE THEMES:

- Cities and regions as laboratories for change
- Ports and circular economy in a global market
- Digital technology as driver for circular economy
- Sustainable materials and waste management
- Circular bio-economy and bio-based materials
- Land and soil as valuable resources

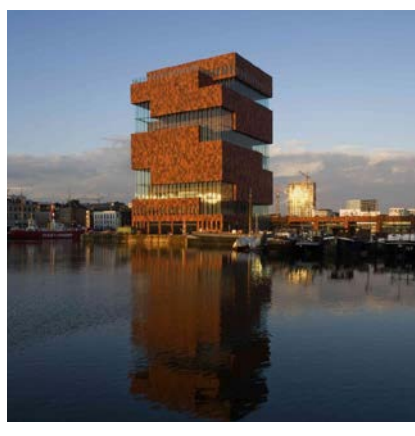
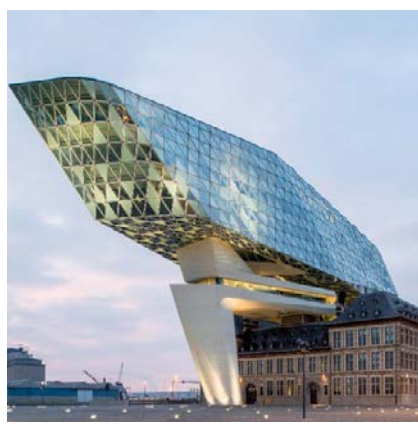


PLEASE KEEP IN MIND FOLLOWING POINTERS FOR YOUR SUBMISSION:

- A workshop proposal implies the entire organisation of a workshop, including contacting and inviting speakers and moderator, preparing background materials and report. The WRF organisers take care of room, catering and promotion and can support you with suggestions for speakers and formats. In case you wish to work with scientific papers you will need to organise the review process yourself.
- Workshops put emphasis on concrete cases and solutions and on lessons learnt. What was successful, what did not work and why, what do we need to make it work? What can potentially be the relevance of your case on a more global scale?
- Workshops integrating crosscutting topics such as governance considerations, multi-stakeholder participation, financing, communication and education, links to climate change and poverty will be prioritised.
- Proposals using creative formats that assure dynamic interaction, idea generation and active participation in a multistakeholder setting will be prioritised.
- Workshops at the WRF 2019 are programmed to last in principle 1.5 hours each.

Scientists and research institutions are also encouraged to participate and submit a workshop proposal, integrating scientific insights and papers in a dynamic format. In this case, please bear in mind that any corresponding call for papers and their respective review should be coordinated by the workshop organisers themselves before submission. For related questions please contact the WRF 2019 organisers.

With this call we also invite partners who are interested in organising a site event of field trip, to contact us at marialucia.hijar@wrforum.org and Lieze Cloots at lieze.cloots@ovam.be



WORKSHOP PROPOSAL

FORMAT

- Title of the workshop
- Description of issues covered
- Workshop organisers and workshop chairs (names, affiliation and contact information)
- Invited speakers (indicate confirmed and to be invited or to be confirmed speakers)
- Indicative format/structure of the workshop, including expected duration, tentative workshop program, preferred day of the workshop (February 25, February 26).
- Indicate who will you invite to join and how will you promote your workshop.

SUBMISSION

Submissions should be sent online by filling out [this form](#)

PREPARATION AND ORGANISATION DEADLINES

- Workshop proposal submission due: June 30, 2018
- Notification of acceptance: September 15, 2018
- Workshop promotional text: October 15, 2018
- Confirmation of workshop speakers: November 15, 2018
- Final Workshop program: December 15, 2018

REQUIREMENTS

- During July and August, OVAM and WRF can get into contact with suggestions to modify or complement your proposal e.g. with additional speakers, cases, or adapted formats.
- You will be invited to introduce your workshop to the audience on the first day of the conference (February 25), as well as to provide a summary of your workshop on the last day (February 26). More details about these activities will follow.
- You are required to send us a 3-page summary report of your Workshop within two weeks after the event. The report will be included in the WRF 2019 Meeting Report.

FINANCES

- We normally charge a standard rate of EUR 1.500 per workshop, which also includes all venue and related costs:
- Speakers, moderators and participants of your workshop need to be registered to the WRF conference through our official conference tool, not necessarily all two days.
- Two organisers per workshop get free access to WRF.
- We offer special discounts on official prices for workshop speakers and chairs.

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ADDITIONAL INSPIRATION ON THE TOPICAL ISSUES FOR WORKSHOPS



Cities and regions as laboratories for change
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1. Cities and regions as laboratories for change

Around 60% of the world's population will live in urban deltas by 2030. This ever-expanding population calls for innovation, creativity and new ways of providing for good living conditions with minimal impact. Closing the loops of resource flows in urban regions is a key strategy, where cities have the responsibility and potential to lead and pioneer, from different perspectives. [Read more >](#)

2. Ports and circular economy in a global market

In a circular economy, emphasis lies on locally closed material loops, local production and local solutions for waste and materials management. However, the reality of a global market today often goes in the opposite direction. This encourages us to look into the mechanism of the global market and its key actors, specifically ports as key players in this context, in order to evolve towards circularity worldwide. What innovative instruments can be developed and what good practices can be shown to manage the global material flows in a sustainable manner? [Read more >](#)



Ports and circular economy in a global market
[READ MORE >](#)



Digital technology as driver for circular economy
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3. Digital technologies as a driver for circular economy

In the transition to circular production processes in the making industry, the use of digital technologies is crucial. Industry 4.0 therefore can be seen as an important technological driver for circular innovation. However, the introduction of digital technologies will not be able to accelerate a real transition, unless systemic shifts take place, such as the involvement of multiple stakeholders along the value chain, innovative enterprises with circular business models, a stimulating policy environment, access to finance, etc. [Read more >](#)

4. Sustainable waste and materials management

Closing material loops requires also innovative projects, policies and technologies to optimize the current 'traditional' strategies of product life extension, reuse of products and recycling of materials. Many pending questions could be touched upon in this context. [Read more >](#)



Sustainable materials and waste management
[READ MORE >](#)



Circular bio-economy and bio-based materials
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5. Circular bio-economy and bio-based materials

The stocks of a whole series of materials are shrinking rapidly. The use of fossil based feedstock for production of materials and products has a detrimental impact on the environment. The replacement of existing materials with reusable bio-materials and the transformation from fossil based to bio-based materials become the challenge for future generations. However, fitting the new bio-materials in the current economy, and realizing synergies between bio-economy and the circular economy to create a more sustainable economy, is far from easy. Many questions remain unanswered. [Read more >](#)

6. Soil and land as a valuable resource

Soil and land are valuable and vital, but also finite (very slowly renewable) resources that due to their essential functions for people, planet and profit have to be used in a sustainable way. Workshop proposals could dive into cases where land and soil are dealt with in a circular way, taking into account their different functions. [Read more >](#)



Land and soil as valuable resources
[READ MORE >](#)

The organisers:



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